(b) Attention of all the State Governments has been drawn towards the status of utilisation of funds in their respective States and they have been requested to take effective steps to speed up utilisation.

(c) Yes, Sir.

Non-release of MPLADS Fund

1668. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not yet released the MPLADS fund of some MPs for the year 1998-99 even after getting the utilisation certificate from the Collectors;

(b) if so, the details of fund released in favour of MPs of Orissa; and

(c) whether the unutilised MPLADS fund of Rajya Sabha members who have retired on 2nd July, 1999 is still laying unutilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATATIVE REFORMS AND PUBLIC GRIEVANCES OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS: (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) MPLADS funds are released on receipt of an expenditure statement showing unsanctioned balance of less than Rs. 50 lakhs from the concerned District Collectors. Based on these reports, funds have been released to District Collectors in respect of eligible MPs. Utilisation certificates are not insisted upon for the purpose of release of funds.

(b) A statement containing the details of funds released to Rajya Sabha MPs from Orissa during the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000 is enclosed (*see* below). The MP-wise details of release of funds are available in the Parliamentary Library and also on internet at URL www.nic.in/dpi.

(c) In accordance with the extant decision, the unutilised MPLADS funds of predecessor Rajya Sabha members from a State are to be equally distributed amongst their successors in that State to be spent on their recommendations after taking into account the cost of all the eligible works of the predecessor MPs.

Statement

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT SCHEME

Details of Funds released under MPLADS for Ist, IInd, IIIrd & IVth Instalment of 1998-99 and Ist, IInd, IIIrd & IVth Instalment of 1999-2000 as on 06/03/2000

Sl. No.	Constituency Name/District Name/ Name of MP	(1998-99) Instalment				(1999-2000) Instalment			
		Ist	IInd	IIIrd	IVth	Ist	IInd	IIIrd	IVth
STATE: Orissa (Rajya Sabha)									
SITTING MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT									
1.	BHADRAK ANANTA SETHI	10/11/1998	23/02/1999	26/04/1999	23/06/1999	20/12/1999	—	—	—
2.	NOWRANGPUR BHAGABAN MAJHI	10/11/1998	26/03/1999	23/06/1999	09/12/1999	—	—	—	—
3.	SUNDARGARH DILIP KUMAR RAY	25/06/1998	10/11/1998	30/03/1999	31/05/1999	09/12/1999	—	—	—
4.	SUNDARGARH FRIDA TOPNO	01/12/1998	03/03/1999	26/04/1999	23/06/1999	09/12/1999	09/12/1999	—	—
5.	BALASORE M.N. DAS	07/09/1998	26/04/1999	—	—	28/06/1999	11/10/1999	20/12/1999	—
6.	SUNDARGARH MAURICE KUJUR	10/11/1998	01/02/1999	26/04/1999	23/06/1999	—	—	—	—
7.	KEONJHAR RAHAS BIHARI BARIK	25/06/1998	26/11/1998	30/03/1999	10/06/1999	11/10/1999	15/11/1999	09/12/1999	—
8.	JAJPUR RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA	10/11/1998	26/04/1999	—	—	08/07/1999	—	—	—

Sl. No.	Constituency Name/District Name/ Name of MP	(1998-99) Instalment Ist	IInd	IIIrd	IVth	(1999-2000) Instalment Ist	IInd	IIIrd	IVth
9.	CUTTACK								
	RANGANATH MISHRA	07/09/1998	26/04/1999	—	—	28/06/1999	—	—	—
10.	SAMBALPUR								
	SANATAN BISI	31/05/1999	11/10/1999	29/12/1999	—	—	—	—	—
THE	EX-MEMBER OF RAJYA SABHA								
11.	RAYAGADA								
	ILLA PANDA	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12.	CUTTACK								
	JAYANTI PATNAIK	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13.	CUTTACK								
	NARENDRA PRADHAN	20/05/1998	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14.	KHURDA								
	SOMAPPA R. BOMMAI	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. (*Interruptions*). The House is adjourned till 2 O'clock.

The House adjourned at 13 minutes past eleven of the clock till 2.00 P.M.

The House reassembled after lunch at one minute past two of the clock, **The Deputy Chairman** in the Chair.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal) : Madam, may I know when the discussion on Bihar is going to take place? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just now, I have something of a technical nature. The hon. Finance Minister is here. He has to raise an issue. That is a sweet matter. Then we will take up the bitter matter of Bihar.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

Seeking to Amend First Schedule to Customs Traiff Act, 1975

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Madam, I beg to move:

> "That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of Section 8A of the Customs Tariff Act 1975, read with sub-section (3) of Section 7 of the said Act, this House hereby approves of Notification No. 12/2000-Customs dated 9.2.2000 (G.S.R. 101 (E) dated 9.2.2000) which seeks to amend the First Schedule to the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 so as to enhance the rate of customs duty applicable to goods under sub-heading Nos. 1701.11, 1701.12, 1701.91 and 1701.99 from "40%" to "60%."

The question was proposed.

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA (West Bengal) : Madam, I have an objection to the Resolution being moved like this. It is true that it has been listed in today's agenda paper. But it is a very important subject and there was no explanatory note. There was no discussion with the leaders of various parties about the contents of this Resolution. Now, we are not in a position to discuss it. In the morning, when I discussed it with the Leader of the Opposition, he also did not know about it. How can such an important Resolution be moved like this and a decision taken without the time having been fixed for its discussion? We cannot give any opinion on this because we have not studied it. I just do not know anything about it. But, at